

The data received from the States/ Union Territories on the major water borne diseases, viz. cholera, acute diarrhoeal diseases (including gastroenteritis), Viral Hepatitis and Enteric Fever do not indicate an increasing trend of the incidence of these diseases in the country. However, constant vigilance is being maintained and State Govts/U.T. Administrations provided necessary assistance and advice as and when the need arises.

National Commission for Women

***291. SHRIMATI MALINI BHAT-TACHARYA:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Commission for women;

(b) whether activities and national women's organisations are being consulted regarding framing of rules for the said commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) No decision has yet been taken regarding the constitution of National Commission for Women.

Project "Towards Freedom"

***292. DR. A. K. PATEL:**

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGEHELA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when was the project "Towards Freedom" taken up by the Indian Council of Historical Research;

(b) the amount spent so far on this project;

(c) when was the project expected to be completed;

(d) the number of volumes of the project which have since been printed; and

(e) when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) On 20th August, 1973.

(b) Rs. 188 lakhs.

(c) The Project was expected to be completed in 1980.

(d) One volume.

(e) By 31st March 1994.

[Translation]

Welfare of Women and Children

***293. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the new schemes under consideration of the Government for the welfare of women and children during the year 1991;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide special relief to the house-wives under the self employment scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government is considering some new initiatives for the development of women and children. These include integrated programmes for the development of women, the establishment of a National Credit Fund for Women and the setting up of the office of the Commissioner for Women's Rights which will benefit all categories of eligible women including house-wives. The Integrated Child Development Scheme is being extended to cover adolescent girls in selected blocks.